Famous Visitors to the Tribe

The 2013 Jiingtamok for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians was held the first weekend in July with great weather, and smiles all around.

Dennis Banks, co-founder of the American Indian Movement and famed artist spent several hours for a ‘Meet-N-Greet’ was held July 10th at Aki Maadiziwin Community Center.

Congressman Kildee honored by Tribe

Congressman Dale Kildee, a very special leader and man in our Tribal history was honored by Michigan Tribes See page 17

Our New Home!

Tribal Council has enacted the Sex Offender Registry Act and has implemented registration rules, See page 8

Move to new Government Center

Some of the latest photos and details on Page 15

For submission policies regarding editorial or communications processes for the Currents or the Rapid River News, please go to www.lrboi.com under the tabs for both publications. You will see the full policies written there. These include the editorial and communication protocols for the Office of Public Affairs in effect at this time. To comment upon these policies, please use currentscomments@lrboi.com and send in your thoughts for consideration by the staff. Emergency Management protocols will be available upon request and per authorization by the Office of the Ogema as they constitute secure information designed to protect the lives and investments of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, their members, employees and property. These notices are required under Resolution #13-0411-069
The weekly Ogema and Tribal Council meetings continued this past month and have proven to be a valuable way to meet and discuss issues which impact our tribe and its’ citizens. One or two Executive Branch Directors have been attending the meetings to give updates on their departments, something which is proving to be very helpful for our elected leaders.

At the June 11th meeting, Ogema Romanelli passed out some pocket Constitutions and discussed the upcoming Building Strong Sovereign Nations training being offered by Michigan State University. He recommended the training, particularly for newly elected officials.

Also discussed was the long-range planning for the tribe, particularly in regard to examining the recommendations from the Osisi report prepared several years ago and brought up again by Ogema Romanelli. The Ogema continues to feel that there were valuable elements in the recommendation. There was general agreement that the report contained some useful ideas and it should be re-examined for possible application at this time. Councilor Crampton, who was on Council when the Osisi report was originally considered said that he agreed with the Ogema and would like to see a Work Session on the report and that, “There are a number of things in this report that I like and think should be reconsidered.” This discussion will continue for some time.

The subject of Council Liaisons came up when the Ogema asked for clarification on the role of a Liaison. Council Recorder Sandy Mezeske said that the Liaison is a voice for the particular committee or commission to Council and they observe and contribute to the agenda activities if invited by the commission or committee. They do not have an official leadership role with the group. As part of this discussion, it was mentioned that Mike Ceplina and Gary DiPiazza have been appointed to serve as Liaisons to the Natural Resource Committee.

Public Affairs Director Glenn Zarient attended the meetings to take notes for the Currents. At the 11th meeting, he also told the group about a method to expand use of the tribal Face Book page for member information has been drafted. A copy was sent to Sandy for distribution to the rest of council. It was developed with Public Affairs and IT Director LeVasseur and will be discussed soon.

This last month, Robert Memberto, Director of Commerce attended the meeting and addressed some of the key issues for his department. He contributed to several conversations including tribal donations, the Internet Café gaming issue and Liaison coordination with lobbying efforts in Lansing and Washington. He spent quite a bit of time filling in the Council and Ogema on Wastewater issues and updated the group on some opportunities on possible expansion of services which would be good, economically, for the tribe. Councilor Ceplina had a lot of input on the Utility issue and suggested that down the road, we might be able to create a “Public Works Department.” Robert had everyone laughing when he said that he had learned more about wastewater treatment than he ever wanted to know and that it boiled down to “The solution to pollution is dilution!”

Memberto also filled everyone in on some of the legislative action at the state level regarding the tribes’ activities.

At a meeting in mid-June, it was discovered that there are two groups interested in creating a Community Eagle Staff here at Little River. Robert Memberto referenced an on-going effort which included seeking input and volunteers over the last two years. Councilor Wabin-dato then brought forth an effort that he has been involved in with the same goal in mind. This discussion led to several meetings as part of an on-going effort to move forward with the project. Recorder Sandy Mezeske announced in late June that another meeting was going to be held on July 15th in the Dome Room from 10-11:30 and that it was open to anyone who wished to become involved.

Later in the month, Members Services Director Lee Ivinson had two appearances before the joint Ogema/Council gathering to discuss the services that her department provides to the members. From coordinating DHHS inquiries to handling bereavement and Elders Insurance, Lee’s department is heavily involved and interested in exploring new ways to improve services while containing costs.

Lee’s second appearance before the joint meeting addressed the Elders Insurance program and the implementation of the upcoming Affordable Health Care Act. The tribe spends well over one million dollars a year on the Elders Insurance program and at this time it impacts less than 200 of our elders. The ongoing discussion, which also involved clinic director Robin Carufel and Tribal Manager Jessica Burger, centered around how to get the ‘most bang for the buck’ in health insurance for tribal elders who need the assistance. This topic is continually being studied to do the best for the membership.

A big part of the second discussion was the Affordable Health Care Act and its impact upon tribal members. Director Carufel presented information from a website (www.nativeexchange. org ) which examines the issue quite well. Go to the website or check out the summary printed in this issue of the Currents. We’ve also printed a “Health Exchange Eligibility Determination Flowchart” to help you begin understanding of eligibility options. Over the next few months leading up to implementation, we will be publishing quite a bit of information in the Currents and through other tribal media to help members navigate the health care issue.

Another purpose of the Ogema/Council meetings is for joint presentations on possible projects of tribal interest. One such presenta- tion was on June 25th when John McGary from the Muskegon based Lakeshore Museum talked about a project entitled “Hilt’s Landing” just off of US31 at exit 128. This proposed educational historical park is a family-oriented park that leads the visitors through important eras in the land here on the shores of Lake Michigan. An important part to the tribe is the area that will depict Native American Ottawa life, villages and activities. LRBOI is the only tribe that has been approached to participate in this development and it seems like a natural fit given our historical lands. The park organizers are looking to LRBOI to become corporate sponsors in the near future. (See the accompanying article in this issue for more details on Hilt’s Landing.

In Council session following the latest presentation, Tribal Council, with the Ogema’s consent, agreed to support the cultural project in the future.)

Fran’s Calendar of Tribal Events

Aug. 1-4-Indian Village Camp
Aug. 3- Elder’s Meeting
Aug. 22-25- Indian Village Camp
Sept.2- Labor Day (offices closed)
Sept. 7- Elder’s Meeting
Sept. 14- Nmè Release
Sept. 21- Tribal Reaffirmation Day (offices Closed)

This Calendar of events was created at the suggestion of Elder Fran Pitts.
From the desk of Councilor Kimberly Alexander-At-Large

I am from the bear clan and we take care of our people. For the month of June I was pretty busy!!!!!!!!!!

For the month of June if I was not at a workshop it was due to researching other tribes on how they closed their enrollment. I am actually working on two projects that I have already brought in front of tribal council. I will share them with the member’s as soon as I am done.

Talked with a few chairman on how they started their Legislative affairs office. I truly believe we need a legislative affairs office. With everything going on in Washington, and in Michigan we need to be on top of different issues in Indian country.

I sent out introduction letter to the congressman/women and the two Senators of Michigan again being nominated as the Legislative Liaison and also let them know the other liaisons besides myself.

We as government officials need to be a voice for our tribe and I want to make sure that they receive any resolutions that the tribe passes where we need their support.

The legislative liaisons met with congressman Levin staff, Gabe to introduce ourselves as the legislative liaisons for the tribe. Virgil, Pat, Shannon and myself discussed what issues are important for our tribe. Health Care, Education, sequestration and how it impacted our tribe with the cuts in congress, and we talked about OUR tribe.

Went to an honoring reception for Congressman Dale Kildee, he was such a great supporter for the Native American tribes. He helped get Little River Band were it is today. (Federally Recognized) What a wonderful man!!!

Calling all my member’s outside of the nine county right now and asking them questions, and trying to hear their voice on what their issues are.

Submitted by Kimberly Alexander, At-Large

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* - Business Related
2nd Midwest Peacemaking Conference
Coordinator
Patrick Wilson

Patrick Wilson is employed in the Peacemaking/Probation Department as the Supervisor. Attended the National Judicial College, completed the Dispute Resolution Techniques for Tribal Justice Systems. He attended West Shore Community College, Scottville MI, received an Associate Degree in Art, and went on to Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant MI, got his Bachelor Degree in Fine Art, with a Minor in Museum Studies. He was the curator for the Zibiwing Cultural Society at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Mt. Pleasant, MI. He worked as a Substance Abuse Counselor for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. He then became the Tribal Ogema (Chief). As a person who follows the values and customs of the Anishinaabe, Pat has been doing peacemaking for over 25 years; six of those years are at the Peacemaking/Probation Department of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

The Midwest Peacemaking Conference is one of the many projects the Peacemaking/Probation Department has ventured to develop. The Department and the programs have changed their directions under Patrick’s leadership. He has set forth a clear mission and goals for the Department.

Pat has envisioned a Department that applies the highest standards of training, professionalism, and the knowledge and understanding to provide Peacemaking in a manner that is both helpful and healing to the people who ask for their services. Making a better and a more peaceful world one session at a time.

2nd Midwest Peacemaking Conference
“Wisdom of Peacemaking”
By Patrick D. Wilson

The Peacemaking/Probation Department was very proud to be given the opportunity to host the Midwest Peacemaking Conference (MPC) for the second year in a row. The MPC was created to let Peacemakers, Media, and other Professionals in the field, learn more about the process, techniques, and the development of peacemaking programs. By hosting the Midwest Peacemaking Conference, we are putting the spotlight on Peacemaking, and bringing it to the forefront.

We feel the Midwest region has its own style of peacemaking and has a broad scope of uses, and applications. Our Department has conducted Peacemaking sessions for divorces, parent and child problems, other civil issues and employee disputes.

There are some who would like to create a peacemaking program within their court system, mediation center, or develop peacemaking program in the schools. To help detour bullying and other school yard issues.

Peacemaking has its historical roots in the Native American culture, but it is needed today more than ever. By letting professionals and interested people come together at the conference we are finding out that there is an interest in understanding the concepts of Peacemaking.

To further the reach of Peacemaking we have added another component to this process, and that is online networking. The Peacemaking/Probation Department has created a facebook page with the blessing of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Court. The Chief Judge supports our efforts to expand and educate our Tribal Members and the Public in general about our Peacemaking, the concepts of Peacemaking and the Peacemaking program.

We have developed the Department’s facebook page for the purpose of providing information on the Next Midwest Peacemaking Conference, and to let the participants who attended the conference be able to network with each other. They will have the ability to ask questions, and provide feedback about the MPC. In this way we can continue to improve the conference.

This year’s participants were a small group of professionals, judges, mediators, and Peacemakers. Some were there to learn more about Peacemaking as a continuation from the conference last year. A few heard about the conference last year but were too late, so they came this year.

The Midwest Peacemaking Conference Keynote Speaker, Mark Wedge spoke about “Restorative justice as a healing process,” as Mr. Wedge started talking, you could feel the room fill with anticipation and the yearning to learn more about Peacemaking. What Mark had to offer was right on target for everyone.

We invited some of the presenters back to do another workshop presentation, along with some new presenters. The knowledge and experience of the Presenters was once again was so overwhelming, even with the extended time of the workshops, was still not enough time. It seems the more information we give the more doors we open and the more the participants want to know.

We also added something new to the dinner, a Native American Comedian Vaughn Eaglebear, He was a big hit and had the participant laughing out loud. His “Rez” style of humor really brought out the “commodity cheese” in funny. It was a nice break in the conference, as some of the topics and discussions in the workshops can be very involved and intense.

Many special thanks go out to everyone who helped make the 2nd Annual Midwest Peacemaking Conference the “Wisdom of Peacemaking” a success. Also a Miigwech to the Conference Committee members, Wanda Joseph, Tom St. Dennis, Austen Brauker, Deborah Miller, Laurie Willis and Amber Moore.

The 2nd Midwest Peacemaking Conference over all was “a profound and awe-inspiring experience as well as a learning one.”

Keynote Speaker
Mark Wedge- (Aan Goosh oo)

Co-author, Peacemaking Circles:
From Crime to Community
Mark Wedge or Aan Goosh oo was born and raised and currently resides in the Yukon. Following his mother’s lineage (as is customary with the Tagish/Tlingit), he belongs to the Deicitaan Clan of the Crow moiety. Mr. Wedge has served as Chief of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Executive Director of the Council of Yukon Indians, and President of Yukon Indian Development Corporation and dina Näye Ventures.

Mr. Wedge spoke on Restorative justice as a healing process

Guest Entertainer
Vaughn Eaglebear

Vaughn Eaglebear I am the guy who made the song “John Wayne’s Teeth” in the movie “Smoke Signals.” I am also appearing in the “SHOWTIME” comedy special “Goin’ Native: American Indian Comedy Slam! No Reservations Needed…” I am from Omak Washington and Norris South Dakota. But now I live in Spokane Washington. I like to books, listen to music, and drink coffee and tea. Oh yeah and I almost forgot to say I like to make people laugh. I perform standup comedy locally and nationally throughout America. And I even did stand up in Canada and I didn’t say the letter “a” once in my skit. I also like to do speaking engagements about the two “Cs” and one “M” in life: Comedy Culture and Motivation. And anything else people would like to hear me talk about. I can also do a pretty good group interactive presentation on verbal and non-verbal communication and how it affects our daily walk of life.
Winnifred L. Thomas is an Appellate Court Judge for the Oneida Tribal Judicial System and had served as the Chief Judicial Officer from 2006 to 2011. Ms. Thomas was elected to the Oneida Judiciary in 1995 for a four-year term as a part-time Judicial Officer. She was re-elected to the Judiciary four consecutive terms and when she completes this term she will have served 16 years on the Oneida Tribal Judicial System.

In 2005, she was selected to serve a full-time position. She was selected to be the Chief Judicial Officer representing the Oneida Tribal Judicial System and held that title for five years. Ms. Thomas is a lifelong member of the Oneida community and over the years has had extensive training at the National Judicial College and other training facilities. Ms. Thomas is a certified mediator and a peacemaker for the Judiciary as well as for the community.

Ms. Thomas worked for the United States Post Office. While in the Post Office she held many positions, from rural carrier to postmaster. Ms. Thomas was the Postmaster of the Oneida Post Office and she retired in 2001 with 31 years to her credit.

Aside from the post office and the Oneida Judiciary, Ms. Thomas started her own business in 1995, WT Creations catering, and later bought a bakery. When Ms. Thomas became a full-time Judicial Officer, she handed both businesses over to the capable hands of her children. Ms. Thomas has four children and eight grandchildren and a 90-year-old mother who is very much a part of her life and her best friend.

Family Court and the Peacemaker
The experience of being a peacemaker for the Family Court has been very rewarding and successful. I have put together a small Mock Peacemaking where I will be asking for one individual to assist. I have a friend who is a retired judge traveling with me and I will only need one other person.

JoAnne Gasco is a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians from Peshawbestown, MI. Her professional experience has been with Tribal Courts where she has served as Chief Judge and Associate Judge for two tribes in Michigan. During her tenure as judge, she was involved in the organization and development of two alternative courts: Peacemaking and the Healing to Wellness Court (Drug Court). She has been a facilitator and trainer on Peacemaking topics for various tribal organizations and conferences. She is a member of the Wisconsin Bar and graduated with her Juris Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin School of Law, 2001.

JoAnne Gasco A view of our community past and present; how we can apply the Grandfather Teachings in Peacemaking
In this workshop we will begin with a look at our community; what creates a healthy community? What stops us from being a healthy community? We will share the way family, community and culture created a safe and healthy way of life. Then we will look at what prevents us from living that way of life today.

We next review each of the 7 Grandfather Teachings and discuss how we can bring those teachings into our life as a Peacemaker and the benefit of the teachings in the Peacemaking process.

We will explore the following questions:
• What’s my role as a Peacemaker?
• How do I incorporate the Grandfather Teachings into my life?
• How can I bring the Grandfather Teachings into Peacemaking?
• How do we create a healthy community using today’s norms with yesterday’s culture?

It is important to know community dynamics when building a Peacemaking program. Applying the 7 Grandfather Teachings will ensure that we continue the teachings and promote a safe and healthy lifestyle in our community.
Wilma Henry (Vizenor) was born and raised on the White Earth Indian Reservation and lived in the community of Pine Point, Minnesota. She attended an all Indian Day School in Pine Point and attended High School in Park Rapids, Minnesota. She has attended classes at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City, central Michigan University, in Mt. Pleasant Michigan, and the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.


She has worked one year with the Grand Traverse Band of Chippewa Indians, in Traverse City Michigan and for the past 25 years, has worked for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Her current position is a Cultural Representative for the Elijah Elk Cultural Center, Seventh Generation Program.

**Youth and Peacemaking:** Bullying prevention in the classroom.

This workshop will introduce ways of communicating with youth about bullying within the school setting.

**Students are asked to respond to questions about:**
- What is bullying?
- Are you a bully?
- What can you do to stop bullying?
- Cyber Bullying.

These topics lead into other issues that students face when bullying occurs.

Judge Tim Connors has been a State Court Judge since 1991. He served as Chief Judge of the 15th District Court from 1991 to 1997. He served as Chief Judge of the Washtenaw County Trial Court from 1998-2001.


Judge Connors is a three time recipient of the Justice Blair Moody Award for Significant Contributions to Judicial Excellence. In 2012 he received the Appreciation Award from the Wayne State Law School Native American Law Students Association. In 2011, he was awarded the Tecumseh Peacekeeping Award for Dedicated Service to Protecting the Rights of American Indians from the Michigan State Bar Indian Law Section. He also received the Integrity in the Community Award from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Judge Connors was presented with the Patriot Award for Outstanding Service to the Bench, the Bar and the Community from the Washtenaw County Bar Association in 2009.

Judge Connors serves on the National Executive Board for Midwest Eye Banks. He is a member of the Thomas M. Cooley Professionalism Advisory Committee. Judge Connors is a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Tribal Leadership Forum. He has served by appointment as Judge Pro Tem for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. He is the current State Chair of the Irish Perennial Rescue Society. Judge Connors is a 2013 Hall of Fame Inductee for National Gus Mackers. In 2002, Judge Connors was inducted into the Ann Arbor Huron High School Hall of Fame as a distinguished graduate. Judge Connors was presented with the Appreciation Award and the Patriot Award for Outstanding Service to the Bench, the Bar and the Community from the Washtenaw County Bar Association in 2009.

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State Courts too often script the following: What happened?; Who’s to Blame?; Here’s your punishment. Too often this approach causes further imbalance to the individuals, the families and the communities involved in State Juvenile Justice Systems.

How can we learn from our Tribal Communities to view justice as restorative for our children, rather than punitive and labeling?

Can the teachings of the grandfathers: Wisdom; Love; Respect; Bravery; Honesty; Humility and Truth provide guidance to our youth and adults in the State Juvenile Justice System.

What is currently being done: Overseas; in America and in Michigan to incorporate the guiding principles of Respect; Responsibility and Relationships?

**From Birth to Death: Healing Versus Harming Human Relationship in State Courts Are We Up to the Challenge?**

This session will explore substantive areas of the law in State Courts that involve decisions regarding ongoing human relationships: guardianships; mental health; neglect and abuse; custody and estates.

An exploration of historical influences in state court decision making will be discussed, e.g. binary decision making versus collective input and participation. How individuals, families, and communities are heard, listened to, and reflected in the legal decisions in individual cases will be discussed.

Again, the teachings of the grandfathers will be used as a framework for reflection and discussion.

**Eldercare Conflict Resolution:**
Respecting Differing Truths within the Family (co-presenter is Susan Butterwick) This workshop will focus on the dynamics within a family caring for elderly parents or relatives. Susan Butterwick and Zena Zumeta will discuss special challenges for the mediator / facilitator in working with and engaging multiple parties, multiple levels of mental and physical capacity, and respecting differing perspectives and truths as uniquely valid for each individual. These issues will be explored against the background of the Seven Teachings of the Anishinaabe: Wisdom, Love, Respect, Bravery, Honesty, Humility, and Truth.
Earlene Baggett-Hayes has supplemented her 25 years on practicing law with work in the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution for the past 15 years. The founder and president of The Law and Mediation Center, PLLC, in Pontiac, Michigan, she regularly mediates and arbitrates cases across the country. Her extensive background in human resources and labor relations in the automotive and telecommunications industries propels her into venues to handle issues regarding hiring, terminations, discipline, contract interpretation, overtime and others. Earlene also practices ADR in conflicts regarding divorces, personal injury, property, government, and construction issues.

Ms. Baggett-Hayes also conducts extensive training in ADR. Those programs range from basic Mediation to Michigan State Court Administrative Office approved courses in General Civil Mediation and Domestic Relations Mediation Training. She has developed and facilitated seminars on Agreement Writing, Getting Beyond Impasse, Increasing Your Effectiveness at the Mediation Table and Resolving Issues Regarding Money. Earlene also regularly volunteers her mediation and training services to schools, churches, social service organizations and others. A native Chicagoan, Ms. Baggett-Hayes received a B.A. degree in Political Science, a M.A. degree in Public Administration and a law degree from Creighton and Roosevelt Universities, respectively. She currently resides in Bloomfield Hills with her husband, Bill.

Applying Conflict Resolution Skills to Community and Workplace Issues

This interactive workshop will review Mediation and Facilitation processes and cover the similarities and differences between them. Effective strategies for fostering effective communications, issue spotting, self-determination and consensus building will be discussed. Participants will practice addressing specific community and workplace issues and strategies for understanding each other’s points of view.

Susan J. Butterwick, J.D. Ann Arbor, Michigan, practices in the areas of mediation, program development, training, and teaching. She has mediation experience in civil disputes and large multiparty disputes involving city and county governments and private agencies, and in community, real estate, workplace, probate, and family matters. Ms. Butterwick provides training for Michigan civil court mediators. She also provides training in probate and eldercare mediation, child protection mediation, and conflict resolution skills workshops. She has served as program director and directing attorney for court-connected adult guardianship and child protection programs and currently works with schools and courts implementing youth restorative justice programs. She currently serves as Consulting Director of Family Programs for the Wayne Mediation Center in Detroit and is a consultant for the Engineering Society of Detroit Institute.

Ms. Butterwick is an Adjunct Professor of Law for Wayne State University’s Law School and Communications Department and University of Detroit Mercy Law School.

Eldercare Conflict Resolution: Respecting Differing Truths within the Family” (co-presenter is Zena Zumeta)

This workshop will reflect on the dynamics within a family caring for elderly parents or relatives. Susan Butterwick and Zena Zumeta will discuss special challenges for the mediator / facilitator in working with and engaging multiple parties, multiple levels of mental and physical capacity, and respecting differing perspectives and truths as uniquely valid for each individual. These issues will be explored against the background of the Seven Teachings of the Anishinaabe: Wisdom, Love, Respect, Bravery, Honesty, Humility, and Truth.

“Our Children Are Sacred: Juvenile Restorative Justice in State Courts” (co-presenter is Judge Tim Connors)

(Not: below is the description Judge Connors submitted for this workshop):

State Courts too often script the following: What happened?; Who’s to blame?; Here’s your punishment. Too often this approach causes further imbalance to the individuals, the families and the communities involved in State Juvenile Justice Systems.

How can we learn from our Tribal Communities to view justice as restorative for our children, rather than punitive and labeling?

Can the teachings of the grandparents: Wisdom; Love; Respect; Bravery; Honesty; Humility and Truth provide guidance to our youth and adults in the State Juvenile Justice System?

What is currently being done: Overseas; in America and in Michigan to incorporate the guiding principles of Respect; Responsibility and Relationships?

Wanda Joseph, MA, is a peacemaker with a passion for harmony, justice and healing. She has a Masters of Arts degree in Conflict Analysis and Engagement from Antioch University Midwest. As a trainer of conflict engagement and communication skills since 1989 and mediator since 1994, Wanda offers a wide variety of services in her private practice of Creative Conflict Resolution.

She provides workplace mediation and training in the areas of communication and conflict management as well as the Michigan State Court approved mediator training. She is currently the Outreach Representative with the Michigan Special Ed Mediation Program, promoting mediation for parents and educators in disputes around the education of children with special needs. Because she has a special interest in the healing aspect of laughter and its role in restoring relationships and promoting creative problem solving, she brings lightheartedness to the work of justice with healing.

Austen Brauker works as a Peacemaker/Probation Officer at the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Justice Center. He is an artist, novelist, screenwriter, poet and musician. Austen is an advocate of spiritual unity among all of earth’s creatures. He seeks to focus on our similarities as brothers and sisters, rather than arbitrary divisive differences, hoping to help in the evolution of our collective world consciousness. Austen is married to his beautiful love and best friend, his wife Victoria.
Tribal Council has enacted the new Tribal Sex Offender Registry Act as a further step in protecting our families and youth. Please review the following documents for details. If you have questions, contact the Tribal Public Safety Director Mike Martin at his Justice Center office.

**NOTIFICATION OF TRIBAL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONVICTIONS OF SEXUAL OFFENSES**

IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE #11-400-11
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION ACT

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOU GO TO SCHOOL, WORK OR LIVE ON TRIBAL LAND, AND YOU ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER IN ANY JURISDICTION OR HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF CERTAIN SEXUAL OFFENSES IN THE TRIBAL COURT, YOU HAVE A DUTY TO SUBMIT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE BAND AND REGISTER WITH THE TRIBE’S PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY. THIS ORDINANCE APPLIES TO BOTH TRIBAL MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS PRESENT ON TRIBAL LAND IN ANY CAPACITY.

ORDINANCE #11-400-11, Sex Offender Registration Act, is Available On-Line at LRBOI.com.

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**Notification of Registration Requirements**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Government has over 13,000 vendors in its database, with only a portion of those vendors actually providing services to the Tribe at any given time. The Little River Casino Resort has 5,766 vendors in its database, with 571 of those listed providing services to date in 2011. Muschigon Construction works with approximately 85 vendors, and the LRBOI Trading Post approximately 60.

It is anticipated that a copy of the attached Notification will be included in all payments sent to vendors beginning shortly after the final effective date of the Tribe’s SORNA Ordinance. This informal policy will continue until the Tribe is satisfied that the majority of vendors have been notified of the requirements of the Tribe’s laws.

Additionally, the notification will be posted in conspicuous locations in the Tribe’s Governmental Office Buildings; Muschigon Construction offices and job sites; the LRBOI Trading Post, and the Little River Casino Resort, including the RV Park. The tribe will also post notification on Tribal lands that are frequented by campers.

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**THE TERM “WORK” INCLUDES ANY INDIVIDUAL PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE TRIBE AND ITS ENTERPRISES, WHETHER THAT PERSON IS A CONTRACTOR, EMPLOYED BY A VENDOR, OR AN EMPLOYEE.**

**THE TERM “GO TO SCHOOL” INCLUDES INDIVIDUALS ATTENDING TRADE AND/OR VOCATIONAL COURSES OFFERED BY THE TRIBE OR ITS ENTERPRISES ON TRIBAL LAND.**

**THE TERM “TRIBAL LAND” INCLUDES ALL LAND OWNED BY THE TRIBE, WHETHER IN FEE OR TRUST.**

IT IS YOUR DUTY TO REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY IMMEDIATELY TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOU ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UNDER TRIBAL LAW. REGISTRATION IN ANY OTHER JURISDICTION IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO ABSOLVE YOU OF YOUR DUTIES UNDER TRIBAL LAW.

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**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians NOTICE:**

**Sex Offender Registration Requirements**

All persons who are convicted sex offenders are required by the LRBOI Sex Offender Registration and Notification Statute to register with LRBOI Department of Public Safety if any of the following circumstances are true:

1. You are a Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal member; or
2. Your residence is on tribally owned lands; or
3. You are visiting and/or staying on tribally owned lands for more than twenty-four (24) hours; or
4. You are enrolled in any classes, schools, or workshops located on our Tribal lands; or
5. You are employed by the Tribe, and work on tribally owned lands, or
6. You are working for a company/individual doing business with the Tribe and you are entering tribal lands for any purpose.

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**TO REGISTER, APPEAR IN PERSON**

Department of Public Safety:
3031 Domres Road (Tribal Justice Center)
Manistee, Michigan 49660
231-398-3413
Or 231-723-6241 after business hours-ask for Tribal Police

FAILURE TO REGISTER WILL RESULT IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTION
The LRBOI Election Board held their Election July 8th, 2013 for the Office of Appellate Judge. 458 ballots were cast in the election. Preliminary results (pending a challenge period) show that Cindy Pete-Champagne “Wababenisicwe” won with 132 votes. Steve Parsons was second with 105 votes.

Other results are:
- Stella Gibson: 47 votes
- Marcella M. Leusby: 28 votes
- Tom Guenthardt: 45 votes
- Rita Annette Gale: 28 votes
- Connie L. Waitner: 28 votes
- Ron Wittenberg: 44 votes

Cooley features judge from the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Judge Angela Sherigan, associate judge for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in Manistee, Mich., spoke during Cooley Law School’s “Integrity in Our Communities” speaker series on Wednesday, June 26, from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 145 at Cooley Law School’s Auburn Hills campus. The judge’s presentation was hosted by the school’s Center for Ethics, Service, and Professionalism.

Sherigan was named a 2013 Leader in the Law by Michigan Lawyers Weekly and was a 2012 Legal Services Corporation honoree for her pro bono work with Michigan Indian Legal Services, Inc. She is a past president of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, a dedicated volunteer with the Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance, and managing partner of Wojnecka & Sherigan in Macomb County.

Cooley’s “Integrity in Our Communities” speaker series offers students, staff, faculty, and guests the opportunity to hear attorneys, judges, and dedicated professionals speak about ethics, service, and professionalism.

Police blotter

“The LRBOI Tribal Police Safety Department handles many different types of complaints and problems. From regular “beat” officers to detectives, narcotics investigators, Maritime officers, search and rescue units and Natural Resources officers, you never know just what issues will come up from day to day. Here is a sampling of calls handled by our Tribal Police this last month.” The following is a synopsis for June Tribal and non Tribal arrests.

06/05/2013: Tribal Police made a traffic stop on US 31 near M-22. The driver, a 41 year old Gladwin woman was arrested for driving while license suspended.

06/22/2013: A 27 year old Arcadia man was arrested for Domestic Violence by Tribal Police. The incident occurred in the Casino parking lot.

06/22/2013: Tribal Police arrested a 26 year old Manistee woman for a probation violation.
Tax-Exempt Quotas

Tax-exempt motor fuel monthly limit is 175 gallons per Tribal member.
Tax-exempt cigarette monthly limit is 20 packs per Tribal member.

Remember

Tribal members are responsible for tracking their own purchases.
Do not rely on the Trading Post to track your purchases for you.

REMEMBER: NEW PROCEDURE FOR VERIFYING RESIDENT TRIBAL MEMBER (RTM) STATUS

On August 15, 2012, Ogema Romanelli approved a new procedure for verifying the physical address of Tribal members who move into the Tribe’s Tax Agreement Area and choose to have Resident Tribal Member (RTM) status. “Resident Tribal Members” (RTMs) are considered State tax exempt in accordance with the Tax Agreement between the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and the State of Michigan. A Tribal member must live at the physical address within the Tax Agreement Area to benefit from this tax-exempt status.

Tribal members that do not live within the Tax Agreement Area are not affected by the new procedure.

Proof of Residency is required for any address change to “Resident Tribal Member” status. This means that if you are requesting a new identification card or RTM sticker, and your address has changed since the last identification card issued by Enrollment, you will need to provide written proof of residency in order to be changed to Resident Tribal Member status.

In addition to Tribal ID, the RTM must provide two (2) of the following with name and physical address to prove physical residence. One of these proofs must include photo ID:

- Michigan driver’s license with address in Tax Agreement Area
- Voter’s registration with address in Tax Agreement Area
- Michigan identification card with address in Tax Agreement Area
- Utility bill naming member (or legal guardian, if minor) as responsible for payment for address in the Tax Agreement Area.
- Copy of rent of lease agreement if utilities are included in rent.
- Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) paperwork.
- Social security determination with physical address
- School records (for dependents)
- Post office record of physical address
- Other – certain eligible received mail

Tribal members that do not provide the required “proof of residency” to the Enrollment Office can present their documents at the Tax Office to become eligible for Resident Tribal Member status.

Those members currently listed as “Resident Tribal Members” shall remain on the RTM list unless information is received by the Enrollment or Tax Department that calls actual physical residence into question. Tribal members determined to be using another address outside the Tax Agreement Area may be required to provide proof of physical residency for the period that tax-exempt status was claimed.

No person shall be added to the electronic RTM list or any subsequent listing unless written documentation of Tax Agreement Area residence is provided. The “Address Correction Form for Enrollment” has been revised. Residency within the Tax Agreement Area is now certified on a separate “Proof of Residency” form (TD501).

If you have any questions about Resident Tribal Member status or the new Proof of Residency form and requirements, please call the Tax Office at 231-398-6874 or 1-888-723-8288 ext. 6874. You can also access information on becoming a Resident Tribal Member, and the proof of residency form, on the Tax Office page of the Tribe’s website at www.lrboi-nsn.gov.
## Elder Calendar for the remainder of 2013:

- **August 3**: Elders meeting at Aki at noon.
- **September 7**: Elders meeting at Aki at noon.
- **October 5**: Elders meeting at Aki at noon.
- **November 2 & 3**: Annual Fall Elders Conference at the Casino.
- **December 7**: Annual Christmas Party and meeting at the Casino at noon.

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### Aki Community Center Elder Meals Menu August 2013

**Meals served at 12:00**

**Monday—Thursday**

- Meals served at 12:00.
- No Charge to Elders, their Spouse and Handicapped/Disabled Residents who reside within Aki.
- Donations are appreciated and will be used for program activities and food.

**ACTIVITIES**

- **Wednesdays**: Wii Bowling
- **Other Activities**: Birthday of the Month

**Menu subject to change with our notice.**

**Meal serves 1/3 of the RDI based on a 1800 calorie diet.**

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<thead>
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<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Fish Salad, Mixed Veggie, &amp; Dessert</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>August Dips, Broccoli Salad, Corn on the cob, &amp; Dessert</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Popper Stew, Baked Potato, Mixed Veggie &amp; Dessert</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Taco Bar, Fry Bread, Veggie &amp; Dessert</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Goulash, Carrots, Potatoes, &amp; Dessert</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Sausage, Cabbage, Polenta &amp; Dessert</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Ham, Asparagus, Potatoes, Asparagus &amp; Dessert</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Pork Loin, Red Potatoes, Veggie &amp; Dessert</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Breakfast for Lunch</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Pork Loin, Red Potatoes, Veggie &amp; Dessert</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Ham, Asparagus, Potatoes, Asparagus &amp; Dessert</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Angus Burger, Macaroni Cheese, and Dessert</td>
<td>20</td>
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As always this year’s Jiingtamok was a celebration to remember a family reunion, a Joining of community.
Congratulations to our New Princess!

Princess Isabel Burger
Government offices of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians will be relocating in early to mid-August to the new Government Center.

Please watch Facebook, the tribal website www.lrboi.com and the Rapid River News for updates!

By the Gathering Grounds!
The Little River Casino Resort and Rolling Thunder Michigan Chapter #1 held their fourth annual ‘Salute to Veterans’ on June 22nd and 23rd.

Over 300 motorcycle riders came in for the ride and event while many other supporters showed up for the two days of camaraderie and honor to our Veterans.

The event included a visit by the Michigan Vietnam Memorial Wall presented by the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 73 from Holland, Michigan; the Fallen Heroes Memorial; an escorted Veterans Memorial Bike Ride (escort by the Tribal Public Safety Department and other departments); route traffic control by the Bear Lake Township CERT and TERT teams; Blessing of the Bikes; Bands and a Sunday morning church service led by Rolling Thunder Chaplain Doug Welch.

There were also a number of vendors and displays for both days.

LRBOI Warriors Society leader and Tribal Council Speaker Virg Johnson was honored during the event for the tribes’ support for veterans and Melissa Reed, outgoing Executive Director of the Manistee Chamber of Commerce (and US Army veteran) gave a keynote address honoring all veterans, women vets and all their families.

This event is used as the main fundraiser for Rolling Thunder in their programs to benefit and support Michigan Veterans.
July 4th in Manistee was extra special this year as the United Veterans Council, Rolling Thunder Michigan Chapter #1 and other veterans groups celebrated the dedication of the new arch to the Veterans Memorial Park alongside the Manistee River.

Virg Johnson, Tribal Council Speaker and Chair of the Tribal Warriors Society, was honored with the presentation of a special Hackberry Walking Stick in gratitude for the support that the tribe has given to the veterans as the park has developed.

The ‘Hackberry Walking Stick’ is something unique to Manistee. The Hackberry Tree from which this cane was made is from a tree which was planted by veterans shortly after World War II on the bank above the Manistee River. Twenty-seven trees were planted to commemorate the same number of soldiers from Manistee lost in the War. When the bank was re-contoured in 1994 after the river was widened, six trees had to be removed and were later replaced at a more stable location.

The trees removed, which had reached an average diameter of twelve inches, were sawn into planks at Guenthardts Saw Mill and taken to Ken Jilbert. Mr. Jilbert is a former industrial arts teacher who has become the community’s star volunteer since he retired from the Manistee School system in 1990.

The Hackberry was lathe-turned into Victorian style baseball bats and canes by Ken Jilbert which the City of Manistee has presented to visiting dignitaries. This unique gift represents the best of Manistee’s history, its tradition of service and quality craftsmanship.
10TH ANNUAL NMÉ (STURGEON) RELEASE

Events:
2:00 pm: Sturgeon viewing, rearing facility tours and children’s activities
3:00 pm: Sturgeon Release Ceremony
3:30 pm: Fish Released

Location:
Rainbow Bend
US Forest Service
Manistee River Access Site

Please join the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Natural Resources Department

The day will include:
- Releasing young sturgeon into the Big Manistee River
- Tours of the first-ever portable streamside rearing facility for lake sturgeon
- Information about lake sturgeon
- Children’s activities
- Give-a-way items including DVD copies of the Manistee NMÉ documentary
- A community celebration of bringing the sturgeon back to the watershed

SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2013

Please contact the Natural Resources Department for more details: (231) 723-1584
Website: https://www.lrbornsnigov/index.php/lake-sturgeon-program
CLIMATE CHANGE CHECK SHEET
Fifty Actions That Reduce Greenhouse Emissions

REDUCE EMISSIONS AROUND THE HOME, WHILE SHOPPING, AT WORK & SCHOOL, IN THE CAR, IN YOUR LIFE.

AT HOME
1. Get a home energy audit.
2. Replace incandescent with CFL light bulbs.
3. Install a programmable thermostat (heat/cool).
4. Set thermostat down 2° in winter, up 2° in summer.
5. Clean/replace furnace and air conditioner filters.
6. Choose energy efficient appliances [when replacing].
7. Do not leave appliances in standby mode.
8. Wrap water heater in insulation blanket.
9. If airing your home, keep the heat in & the cold out.
10. Replace single-glazed windows with double-glazed.
11. Recycle at home, school, the office, everywhere!
12. Insulate / weatherize your home.
13. Cover pots when cooking.
14. Use less hot water.
15. Run washer / dishwasher only when full.
17. Dry clothes on a line when possible.
18. Install a ceiling fan.

IN THE YARD
20. Use hand tools and a push mower.
21. Plant a tree; Protect and conserve forests.

AT WORK
22. Take your lunch to work / school.
23. Encourage emission reductions at work & school.

YOUR POLITICAL POWER
24. Talk to your representatives – federal, state & local.
25. Run for office/push healthy Climate Change policies.

AT THE STORE
27. Reuse shopping bags / Use cloth grocery bags.
29. Support local farmers’ markets.
30. Purchase fresh over frozen foods.
31. Choose products with less packaging.
32. Buy in bulk.
33. Eat less meat.

IN THE CAR / WHEN YOU TRAVEL
34. Reduce the number of miles you drive.
35. Car pool to work, school or other activities.
36. Keep your car well tuned.
37. Drive smoothly avoiding quick starts and stops.
38. Keep tires properly inflated.
40. Try car sharing.
41. Telecommute from home.
42. Bike, skate, walk instead of driving.
43. Don’t idle your engine for more than half a minute.
44. Avoid drive-thru windows.
45. Link several errands into one trip.
46. Support alternative fuels.
47. Become an Eco-driver to reduce fuel use.

AS A CONSUMER
48. Encourage more renewable energy.
49. Buy recycled products.
50. Invest in responsible businesses.

The power to use less power is in each of us!

For additional information about climate change, go to:

www.michigan.gov/deq

Material provided by Tom Shepard, LRBOI Tribal Air Quality Specialist.
Michigan Heritage Park gets LRBOI support

The LRBOI Tribal Council took a major step forward at the end of June to support a project that will help to preserve our tribal heritage and educate visitors about the true tribal past of our part of Michigan. Council, with the support of Ogema Romanelli, voted to support the new Michigan Heritage Park at Hilt’s Landing over the next three years.

John McGarry, the Muskegon County Museum executive director presented the idea for the park to Council and the Ogema on several different occasions. He said, “We believe this project will have an impact on heritage tourism and historical teachings for all of West Michigan.” Heritage tourism is becoming a major part of the whole tourism industry and is viewed as being critical to preserving knowledge across the land.

The proposed plan call for a small visitor’s center and parking area near the entrance to Hilt’s Landing off North Durham Road near the Colby Road exit off of US 31. The project will cover 10 acres, just under 5% of the large tract of heavily wooded property that includes a stretch of the White River.

Of importance to the tribe is a special portion of the project that will depict Ottawa life, arts and crafts from our history. As part of the walking exhibit, visitors will actually be able to walk through an Ottawa village and learn how we lived. School groups as well as vacationers/visitors will be touring the Park yearly and the park is located within the Little River Bands’ 9-county service area between Muskegon and Manistee.

For more information on the project, go to:

http://www.whitehalltwp.org/Parks/HiltsLanding.html

(as shown in an article from the Muskegon Chronicle)
HEAT KILLS
Never Leave Children Alone in Parked Vehicles

- On average, 38 children die in hot cars each year from heat-related deaths after being trapped inside motor vehicles.
- On a day when the temperature outside is 86 degrees, the temperature inside a car can quickly reach 135 or even 150 degrees!
- Research shows that leaving the windows open a crack does little to reduce this oven effect.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Tips to Prevent Injury & Death

- Never leave infants or children alone in a unattended, even if the windows are partially open or the air conditioner is on.
- Make sure all passengers have left the vehicle after it is parked.
- Do not let your children play in an unattended vehicle.
- Always lock vehicle doors and trunks and keep keys out of children’s reach.
- If you are bringing your infant or child to daycare, and normally it’s your spouse or partner who brings them, have your spouse or partner call you to make sure everything went according to plan.
- Ask your childcare provider to call you if your child does not show up for childcare.
- Put something you’ll need like your cell phone, handbag, employee ID or brief case on the floor board in the back seat.
- Be sure to remove children from the vehicle during busy times, schedule changes, emergencies or shopping for the holidays.
- If you see a child alone in a hot vehicle, call the police.
- If a child is in distress due to heat, get them out as quickly as possible and call 911.
- Warning signs of heat illness may include: red, hot, and moist or dry skin, no sweating, a strong rapid pulse or a slow weak pulse, nausea or acting strangely. Cool the child fast and call 911.

Material provided by Tom Shepard, LRBOI Tribal Air Quality Specialist
For Rent

For details and an application please contact
Chad Gehrke at 231-398-6878 or
Michelle Bernatche at 231-398-6875.

The Little River Band Housing Department is anticipating the construction completion of 7 new two bedroom fair market rental units at Aki maadiziwin in Manistee, Michigan this summer.

Great Start scholarships announced

(LRBOI’s Education Program has announced a scholarship that is available for quality childcare. Here are the details:)

The Great Start Traverse Bay/Manistee Collaborative (GSC) has been awarded $90,000 to provide childcare scholarships to help low income families afford quality childcare. The scholarships are available for children who are or will be three years old by October 1st and who are or will be in licensed childcare.

The maximum award is $2000 for the 2013 – 2014 school year. Scholarship awards will be based on income and family need, and are paid directly to qualified childcare providers who meet Great Start quality standards. Families may apply for the scholarship assistance by contacting Vicky Arlt at Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency.

Through a competitive process, this GSC was one of only eight Collaboratives in Michigan to receive scholarship funding from the Early Childhood Investment Corporation. Criteria for selection included the GSC’s ability to sustain a scholarship program and demonstrate community capacity to provide high quality early care and education for young children.

At least forty-four scholarships will be awarded in our six-county service area which includes Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau and Manistee Counties. Families are encouraged to begin the application process as soon as possible. The deadline for application is August 9. For information about the scholarships please contact either Vicky Arlt at Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency 231-947-3780, or Cynthia Corey at 231-723-1689.

Commercial Trap Nets in northern Lakes Michigan & Huron

Tribal Commercial Trap Net Marking Requirements

- Vessel Operators should NAVIGATE AWAY from all markers and REMAIN 1,500 FEET AWAY from any staff buoy or jug markers.
- Please EXERCISE CAUTION while boating in these areas. Visibility will be limited during low-light or bad weather conditions.
- WARNING: Tampering with these or any other legally set nets is a violation of State and Federal law.

For more information contact:
CHIPPEWA OTTAWA RESOURCE AUTHORITY
179 W. Three Mile,
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
906-632-0043

Report unmarked nets:
LOCAL, STATE or TRIBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS
or Michigan DNR RAP Hotline
1-800-292-7800

NOTICE TO BOATERS
For Rent

For details and an application please contact
Chad Gehrke at 231-398-6878 or
Michelle Bernatche at 231-398-6875.

The Little River Band Housing Department is anticipating the construction completion of 7 new two bedroom fair market rental units at Aki maadiziwin in Manistee, Michigan this summer.
A. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) passed by Congress in 2010 includes:
• Permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act
• New federal funding for Indian health care starting 2014 through Medicaid Expansion and Health Insurance Exchanges
• Health insurance reforms, health careers training, and more

B. Medicaid Expansion
• For everyone under 133% of federal poverty level (FPL)
• More people eligible, including single men

C. Health Insurance Exchanges
• Private insurance plans sold on website
• Federal subsidy of monthly premiums on sliding scale
• Voluntary insurance for American Indians and Alaska Natives. No penalty for not enrolling.
• AI/AN do not pay cost sharing (deductibles or co-pays)
• Special monthly enrollment for AI/AN

D. Insurance coverage through Medicaid Expansion and Exchange Plans for tribal members helps everyone in the Tribe
• Every visit to the Indian health clinic or hospital could be billed to insurance and there will be more resources for Tribe
• Insurance will pay instead of Contract Health Services (CHS)
• No more CHS priority lists or waiting lists
• More CHS funds to help tribal members

E. State is required to consult with Tribes in planning the Exchange, and these topics should be included in tribal consultation:
• Network adequacy – require all Exchange plans to offer provider contracts to Tribal health clinics with Indian addendum
• Enrollment – assure that AI/AN are identified appropriately so that they can receive the protections and benefits under law
• Navigators – provide assistance to enroll AI/AN in Medicaid Expansion and Exchange plans
• Tribal sponsorship – assure that Tribes can chose individuals to sponsor and combine payments for premiums

www.nativeexchange.org

Material provided by Robin Carufel, LRBOI Tribal Health Clinic Director
LRBOI Tribal member and Elder Delano Peters is still at it, inventing cool items which can help people! Over the fall and early winter, Del introduced a new portable ‘exercise’ piece of equipment that can help young people improve their balance and ability to do gymnastics including as he says, “Teach them how to get started walking on their hands!”
Commodity Department

Food Distribution Program (FDPIR) was created by Congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households. No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and the Snap Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month. Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income, and resources qualification, in determining who is eligible for the program. We are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

FDPIR clients survey questions:

How does the commodity program food help your household?

Well in hard times it helps my family by not starving and also help our peace of mind. And also financially when I lost my job it was all I had.

Commissions and Committees

If you are interested in serving on any of the following commissions and committees, please submit a letter of interest to the Ogema’s office indicating which committee/mission you are interested in. Commerce Commission, Gaming Commission, Housing Commission, Binojeeuk Commission, Enrollment Commission, Health Commission, Natural Resources Commission.
Happy Birthday

Cody King
Miranda Curtis
Shawnee Renner
John Bailey

Happy Birthday

Sylvester Joseph Battice
Gertrude Anne Behling
Frances Alice Bott
Karol Ann Chabot
Pauline Lorraine Cooper
Pricilla Dale DiPiazza
Arlene Genevieve Dixon
Leo Carl Ennis
Yvonne Eloyse Foster
Ruth Jane Garrerson
Joyce Corrine Genia
Theresa Delores Hillger
Ronald Deane Lilleberg
Edward Richard Mitchell
Sherman Mitchell Moore
Elaine Joyce Porter
Joyce Anne Ridolfi
Richard George Rittenhouse
Anna Marie Taylor
Constance Christina Cecilia Terrell
Joanne Tillie Treml
Shirley Mildred Witkop

Congrats!

Joe Eno
2013 Onekama High School
Son of Paul and Connie (Koon) Eno, Grandson of Joe Koon and great-grandson of the late James Koon.

Leading the Portagers baseball team (20-11-1 WD) West Michigan D league title. Finishing with a .534 batting average. (17 doubles, 3 triples and 3 home runs. Knocking in 42 runs and stole 29 bases. Fielding percentage of .880 and going 9-1 on the mound with a 221 ERA. Earning utility player for all district and 1st team all conference, all region and most of all all 1st team ALL STATE.

You worked very hard congratulations you deserve it!
We are so proud of you!

Congrats!

Jon Eno
Sophomore at Onekama High School
Son of Paul and Connie (Koon) Eno, Grandson of Joe Koon and great-grandson of the late James Koon.

Earning a West Michigan D league title, with a All District Division IV (catcher) and 1st team all conference WMD utility player, catcher, picture, infield with a batting avg .311 on base percentage of .388. Great Job Jon keep up the hard work. We are very proud of you!

Employment Opportunities!

Check out the new Employment Opportunities tab on the tribal website at
https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/index.php/resources/employment

Our new preference ordinance is there along with links to website and job opportunities. All in one place for your convenience! Check out the exciting opportunities that await you at the Little River Casino Resort. There are many ways to apply. Log onto our Website at www.LRRC.com and click on Careers Call our Human Resources Department at (231) 723-4530 Stop by our Human Resources Department located at 2700 Orchard Hwy Manistee, MI Monday – Friday 7am-5pm

Send your Application, Resume and Cover letter to: Little River Casino Resort
Attn: Recruiting
P.O. Box 417 Manistee, MI 49660
Phone: (231) 723-4530 • Fax: (231) 723-1589
Email: recruiting@lrrc.com

Available job openings can also be found at all LRBOI Tribal Government buildings, in LRBOI Tribal Newsletters and at Michigan Works! Branch offices Tribal Preference will be followed in accordance with the LRBOI- Indian Preference in Employment (Ordinance #11-600-02)

Correction
In the July Issue Irene Dickman’s Date of birth was listed as 1908 it is 1907 Team Currents would like to apologies for this mistake.

My Brother and I would like to thank everyone on behalf of Martha Kase’s family. Chi megwetch to those whom have expressed sympathy, kindness and support for our family at this very difficult time. As many of you know our mother Martha Kase was diagnosed with Cancer last fall. As with all families that have been effected by this disease, we needed a lot of support an which we got. More importantly she got

Thank You Teresa Johnson, Alta Wilson, Janine Sam, Kareen Lewis, Georgianna Jolly, Deb Davis Julie Wolf and Mary Witkop for being the strong women you all are and being there for her. Rather it was just stopping by, a phone call, casual conversation or deep conversation or maybe helping her plan, it was all important and greatly appreciated. We have been humbled by your kindness, found comfort in knowing you were all there for her in her last days. Our mother also receive a lot of spiritual guidance, Jack Chambers seen her through from beginning to to the very end. We will always be grateful for what he done for our mother and our family. Pat Wilson also visited and helped prepare his Aunt for her journey. Bill Willis and Laurie came out and prayed with her, Janine Sam and Jessica Burger came with their hand drum and sang for her the Friday before she past ,Thank you all for your part in preparing our mother for her journey.

Thank you Jay Sam for making sure our mothers fire was started and organizing the Fire Keepers. To all of the men that devoted themselves to that sacred fire thank you again, you all are truly a staple to our tribe. Thank you Brian, Sandy and Kareen for helping us understand and what we needed to do for our mother in the four days that she was making her journey, you have truly touch our hearts. Thanks again to the men that sang and drummed at her service. Thank you Alice Giltz for singing our mothers favorite song and one of her only request for her service. Thank you Janine for finding the most perfect words for our mothers service. Thank you Candace Chapman for coordinating the luncheon and making sure there was not even one thing I had to worry about, your a good friend. Thank you Ron Pete for having the insight you have, And donating all of the lunch meat, cheese, buns and potato salad from the casino. Thank you David and Dianne Lonn, Linda Woods, Eva Petoskey, Arlene Katshata, Dottie, Larry Romanilli, Tammy Bowen, Pat & Harriett G., Janice, Kelly, Lee Ivenson and Kathy Gibson for all the deserts, breads, finger foods and side dishes everything was wonderful. Thanks to the Elders for the Bean Soup and frybread we ate all of it. Somebody made banana bread and brownies they were very appreciated. Thank you Don Chartier for sharing your story and leading share time at the luncheon.

We also wanted to thank everyone that sent a card, a plant, sent an email, message us or just gave us a hug. It has all been very healing for our family. Megwetch Megwetch Megwetch
As part of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights’ (MDCR) 50-city tour to commemorate its 50th anniversary, former Democratic U.S. Representative Dale Kildee was honored for his years of action in the halls of government in advancing and supporting Indian Country.

Representatives from most of the American Indian tribes of Michigan and the United Tribes of Michigan attended the salute at the Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building on June 27.

Kildee received a resolution from the MDCR acknowledging his contributions and accomplishments. The resolution indicates Kildee “dedicated his life to advocating for Native Americans and helping improve Indian Country, possessing a passion for Native culture, language and self-determination for Native American People” and “recognized and reaffirmed several of Michigan’s tribes, demonstrating long-standing support of sovereignty and treaty rights and the tribes’ rights to game.”

The resolution further indicates Kildee founded the Congressional Native American Caucus to provide a policy forum between Congress and tribal nations. Kildee and his colleagues on the caucus amended the Self-Determination Act, which allows tribes to administer Indian Health Service functions and established the Indian Education Foundation.

According to the resolution, Kildee introduced amendments to Indian housing laws that mandated federal government involvement in providing housing assistance to Indians and promoting economic self-sufficiency and self-determination.

The department also cited him as a champion of the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver Act, which provides free tuition to Michigan Indian residents to attend colleges and universities.

The Native American Dollar Coin Act was introduced by Kildee and signed into law by the president in 2007. The law requires the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and distribute coins commemorating American Indians and their contributions to the development and history of the United States.

Tribal representatives bestowed the 83-year-old former Congressman with gifts, more proclamations, heartfelt personal accounts of how his help benefited individuals and communities coupled with a tinge of sorrow and some good-spirited laughter.

Kildee retired from Congress after 36 years of service. He indicated he will be joining the international law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld as a senior consultant on American Indian law and policy and a consulting firm as a policy advisor.

The event was sponsored by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. The leaders of both tribes were in attendance for the special occasion. This article and the photographs of the event were a collaborative effort by the Public Affairs departments of both tribes.)

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Two Famous Native Americans visit LRBOI

Two very famous Native Americans visited LRBOI in early July. Dennis Banks (AIM) and artist Paul Collins got together with Ogema Romanelli and a number of Tribal Council members for an impromptu discussion. Then a ‘Meet-N-Greet’ was held July 10th at Aki Maadiziwin Community Center where members of our tribal community had the chance to meet and talk with both men.

Dennis Banks is a Native American leader, teacher, lecturer, activist, and author. He is an Anishinaabe, Ojibwa, born on Leech Lake Indian Reservation in northern Minnesota. In 1968 he co-founded the American Indian Movement (AIM), and established it to protect the traditional ways of Indian people and to engage in legal cases protecting treaty rights of Natives—such as hunting and fishing, trapping, wild rice.

Banks earned an Associates of Arts degree at Davis University and taught at Deganawida Quetzecoatl (DQ) University (an all Indian-controlled institution), where he became the first American Indian chancellor.

In 1994, Banks led the four-month Walk for Justice (WFJ) from Alcatraz Island in San Francisco to Washington, DC. The purpose was to bring public awareness to current Native issues. Banks agreed to head the “Bring Peltier Home” campaign in 1996 bringing Native Americans and other supporters together in a national drive for executive clemency for political prisoner Leonard Peltier.

He also had roles in the movies War Party, The Last of the Mohicans, and Thunderheart. A musical tape “Still Strong” featuring Banks’ original work as well as traditional Native American songs was completed in’93 and a musical video with the same name was released in’95.

Paul Collins is an internationally recognized artist whose beautiful paintings grace the Little River Casino Resort and many other places. The art of Paul Collins grew out of his study, long experimentation, and determination. He was born in Muskegon, Michigan and moved to Grand Rapids at a very young age. Paul went to school in Ada and Grand Rapids Michigan, where he still lives today between various sojourns.

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